TELONE* SOIL FUMIGANTS: REGULATORY STATUS, STRATEGY AND FUTURE

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The scheduled phase-out of methyl bromide from agricultural uses requires that new soil fumigation alternatives or combinations must be identified and tested during the period leading up to 2005. In combination, 1,3-dichloropropene and chloropicrin have demonstrated a unique ability to control nematodes, diseases and weeds and have become a primary alternative for methyl bromide. With the recent completion of the USEPA reregistration and Special Review processes, 1,3-dichloropropene holds a unique, positive regulatory position as an important piece of the methyl bromide alternative puzzle.

Traditional, sub-soil injection formulations of 1,3-D (TELONE II) and 1,3-D/chloropicrin combinations (TELONE C-17 and TELONE C-35) continue to be the principal soil fumigation options for growers for nematode and disease control in agriculture. To optimize the utility and practicality of 1,3-D/chloropicrin formulations, as alternatives to methyl bromide, research is on going to update and refine the regulatory conditions of product use at the global, Federal and state levels. This research includes work in the areas of emissions and buffer zone reduction along with personal protective equipment refinement.

In addition, Dow AgroSciences is presently pursuing global registrations for drip irrigation formulations of TELONE II (TELONE EC) and of Telone C-35 (InLine*). These new formulations are expected to provide needed soil fumigation flexibility across the diversity of current agricultural, cropping practices.